NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Northampton.—On the 3rd of August inst. the Bishop of Peterborough consecrated St. Edmund's Church. It is a cruciform Early English structure, with central tower, and consists of nave, south aisle, transepts, and chancel, and provides accommodation (on the floor only) for 800 persons, 534 of which are free sittings. The entire cost of the building, including boundary-wall, &c. is about 4,000*l.* The architect is Mr. Charles Vickers.

Chelmsford.—On the 12th inst. the foundation-stone was laid of the tower of Willingale Doe Church, which is about to be rebuilt, and of a new aisle which is about to be added. The church, dedicated to St. Christopher, stands in the same yard as that of Willingale Spain—a singularity, as remarked by the local *Journal*, of which there are but few instances in the kingdom. Some years ago the tower was struck by lightning, and though the damage was then repaired, decay has since been rapidly loosening its walls and eating into its foundations. Mr. Clarke, the diocesan architect, being called in, pronounced the tower decidedly dangerous. It was therefore resolved to take it down and rebuild it, and to add a new aisle, by which fifty additional sittings will be obtained. The estimated expense was 1,100*l.* There is still a deficiency of 200*l.* in the cost of the tower and aisle, besides which some further expenditure will be required on the roof. The tower will be eighty feet high, and is to be of flint-work, precisely in the style of the old one, and the aisle will be made to harmonize with the rest of the edifice. The builder is Mr. White, of Pimlico.

Yarmouth.—A curious mural painting has recently been discovered on the north side of the chancel of St. Nicholas Church, close to the Crowmer monument. It represents a number of armed knights entering a church: behind are two figures also in armour, but bare-headed, with mantles and hands uplifted. The countenances of the knights are perfect. They are clad in quilted mail of a very early date, with drawn swords in their hands, except one, who appears to hold his sword with the hilt uppermost.

Woolpit.—With a view to a knowledge of the probable cost of re-erecting the church tower, the vestry directed Mr. Phipson, of Ipswich, and Mr. Farrow, of Diss, to furnish them with designs, and accordingly three plans have been submitted, one by Mr. Phipson, and two by Mr. Farrow. Mr. Phipson's design exhibits a tower closely resembling the fallen one, with a lofty spire of stone rising from within the battlements. In one of Mr. Farrow's designs the spire rises directly from the tower, and, with it, is proposed to be built of squared flints with stone quoins. The other design is intended to harmonise with the ornamented porch and enriched clerestory, the belfry story having a double window on each face corresponding with the flint-work of the clerestory, and the tower being terminated by a battlement with crocketed pinnacles. Above rises a spire with crocketed angles and bands. The parishioners have agreed to raise by rate 300*l.*; and the rector and his family have offered a further sum of 250*l.* Public subscription is also looked to for aid in the re-erection. Surely the cost of a lightning conductor will be regarded as an indispensable outlay.

Faringdon.—The church is undergoing a thorough repair, and great alterations are being made in the interior appearance, and more accommodation in sittings will be provided. The organ has been removed to a new position, and a new vestry is being built, the old one being added to the accommodation. It is hoped the whole will be re-pewed.

Folkestone.—A new vestry is to be built to the parish church, with several other alterations connected with the building. Mr. Messenger is the architect. The following were the tenders, "showing how doctors differ":—

Porter	£162	0	0
Hood	142	9	0
Foreman	125	0	0
Johnstone	105	0	0
Elgen	92	0	0
Regis	82	16	9 accepted.

Sherborne.—The new building erected on a site adjoining the Union Chapel here, for the Sunday schools connected with its congregation, was opened on Thursday week. The new building is in the second pointed style of 14th century. It is of Sherborne stone, except the ornamental portions, which are of Hamhill stone. The roof is open timbered, and constructed of red pine stained, covered with ornamental tiles and crest. An open framed bell-turret surmounts the roof, formed of oak, having a spire covered with lead. The school-room, 65 feet long by 24 feet wide, is approached from Long-street by a flight of stone steps, rising about 8 feet from the level of the pavement, and is entered by an open stone porch: another entrance is also formed on the west side from the chapel yard. A committee-room is attached to the school. The building has been erected under the superintendence of Mr. Shout, architect, by Mr. Stevens, mason; Mr. Harris, carpenter; and other artificers, all of Sherborne. The cost, including site, is said to have been about 1,000*l.*

Carmarthen.—The new Roman Catholic chapel here was opened for public worship on Wednesday week. The chapel is built in the Gothic style, and is tolerably commodious. The nave is 74 feet by 26 feet 6 inches, and the chancel is 22 feet by 20 feet.

Cardiff.—Last week a seamen's chapel was opened here with some ceremony. It is situated on the eastern side of the Bute Docks, and was erected at the cost of the Marchioness of Bute. Fifty feet by twenty feet are its dimensions; and it is wholly composed of corrugated iron, with porch and small bell turret, three side lights, circular-headed (of wretched proportions), and quarries. It is devoid of any architectural pretensions, the interior being as plain as the exterior. Why did they not consult a professional man (asks a correspondent), and have some little style introduced? to show its purpose, and enable passers-by to discriminate it from the sheds for carpenters and blacksmiths, which abound on this spot for Messrs. Hemingway and Pierson's works.

Tuxtall.—A building occupied by a joiner and builder as workshops, but erected with the design of ultimately converting them into two dwelling-houses, fell in on Thursday week. The front and back walls giving way from the first floor, brought down the entire roof, and forced out one of the gable ends. Fortunately no lives were lost.

Bilston.—The contractor for the erection of the new court room and police station, Mr. Hemberrow, of Wolverhampton, has handed it over to the county magistrates. On the second floor, besides the court room, there is a retiring room for the justices, and a waiting room for the witnesses; below is an office for the resident clerk to the magistrates, a police room, waiting room, and two apartments for the police; and on the sunk floor are six cells for prisoners, with a cooking kitchen and other conveniences. Over the court room are the sleeping apartments of the officers. The building is plain in appearance. The architect was Mr. Trubshaw, of Stafford.

Upton.—Plans, by Mr. James Harrison, of Chester, architect, for a church at Upton, have been approved by the committee of architects appointed by the Church Building Society, who have promised 100*l.* towards the erection.

Nottingham.—The foundation-stone of the proposed institution for the blind of the counties of Notts, Derby, Leicester, Lincoln, and Rutland was laid by Earl Manvers on Tuesday in last week. The site, says a local paper, is at the top of High Holborn, in New Nottingham, and was presented as a free gift to the institution by Mr. Samuel Fox. It overlooks the Cemetery and the Arboretum, and from its commanding position on the summit of a considerable eminence the view from it is varied, extensive, and beautiful,—a circumstance of little importance to the destined inmates, by the way. The building itself will be in the Elizabethan style of architecture. It will have two fronts—one facing the Cemetery-road, and the other Chancer-street, the former of which will be 96 feet by 104. The basement will be composed of Horsley-castle stone, and the rest of the best red bricks, with facings of white stone. It is to accommodate forty inmates, and will admit of being enlarged without affecting the character of the design. The erection will cost about 3,000*l.* but an additional 1,000*l.* will be required to complete it for the reception of inmates, including the purchase of a piece of land. It is expected to be finished and opened by this time next year. The architects of the design, which was competed for last year, are Messrs. Aicken and Capes, of London. A large sum for the erection has been realised, but there is still a balance to be subscribed.

New Wortley (Leeds).—On Tuesday, says last week's *Leeds Intelligencer*, the first stone of a new church to be built at New Wortley was laid in "Chancery," in the heart of the village. It is to be dedicated to John the Baptist.

Dundee.—The new Royal Infirmary, lately founded, is to be in the Tudor style, chosen, it would appear, in order that the irregularity of the style may readily admit of any future alteration or enlargement. The general plan of the hospital is the corridor or single ward system. The principal wards are 103 feet long, 22 feet wide, and 17 feet high, affording 1,720 cubic feet to each patient, being about four times the space allowed in the old infirmary. Attached to every principal ward is a convalescent ward, bath-room, lavatory, scullery, &c. The principal corridor is 346 feet long, 11 feet wide, and 17 feet high, having four fire-places, and at either end a commodious lounge. The corridors serve as a means of communication between the wards, assist the ventilation of the building, and serve as a place of recreation and exercise in bad weather. The hospital forms three sides of a square. The centre of the front is to be used exclusively for domestic purposes. The rest of the building is devoted entirely to the accommodation of the sick. A lift is provided sufficiently large to accommodate a bed or cot to take the patients from the basement to the upper wards. The internal arrangements, according to the *Northern Warder*, have met with the approbation of the leading physicians of Edinburgh, London, and Dundee, and are pronounced by them to be such as may serve as a model for any future buildings that may be devoted to a similar purpose in Scotland. The hospital is to be constructed to accommodate in ordinary times 220 patients, but the corridors will be so arranged that in times of emergency they may be converted into wards, affording additional accommodation for 140 patients. Messrs. Coe and Goodwin, of London, are the architects.

Nairn.—A new Secession church is being erected here. The town is to be improved by the formation of a new street along the banks of the river Nairn, entering at the bridge at the east end of the town.

Miscellaneous.—The Kilmarnock Gas Company have reduced the price of their gas from 6*s.* 8*d.* to 6*s.* a thousand cubic feet.——The Arbroath Gas Company have announced a further reduction in the price of theirs to 5*s.* 10*d.*

LEEDS TOWN HALL COMPETITION.

It may not be amiss to conjure up before the eyes of your professional readers some of the dark deeds that have been done in this "owl-watched" town, to let them see the fruits the tree has borne, and judge them of the harvest they may expect to reap as the reward for their hard art-labours in this competition. A few years back a goal was wanted—plans were advertised for—designs sent in—and one, acknowledged as the best, selected; the committee then, as now, not "binding" themselves to employ the man who had shown himself the most competent.

The author of the chosen plan was not a novice in the art, but one who had gained a just meed of fame; yet, forsooth, because he was not a townsman, and honestly demanded his legitimate remuneration, others were found who, "for a consideration" of about one-fourth the due percentage, consented to assume the credit and to carve their names upon the entrance portal, the rightful owner of the

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